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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/412,754	10/05/1999	JUDI VERNAU	10513-0001-2	1060

7590 07/17/2002

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EXAMINER

PARDO, THUY N

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2175

DATE MAILED: 07/17/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/412,754

Applicant(s)

VERNAU ET AL.

Examiner

Thuy Pardo

Art Unit

2175

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 October 1999.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-78 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claim(s) 1-78 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

DOV POPOVICI  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100

### DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-78 are presented for examination.

#### *Election/Restriction*

2. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

Group I: Claims 1, 4, 7, 12, 17, 19-31, 34-36, 39, 43, 50-53, 56, 65, 70, and 73-75, drawn to a method and apparatus for classifying a document, classified in Class 707, subclass 101.

Group II: Claims 2, 5, 13, 15, 18, 32, 40, 54, 57, 71, and 76, drawn to a method and apparatus for checking spelling in a document, classified in Class 707, subclass 102.

Group III: Claims 3, 6, 14, 33, 41-42, 55, 58-64, 72, and 77, drawn to a method and apparatus for refining the results of a subject matter search carried out by a search engine using a keyword, classified in Class 707, subclass 5.

Group IV: Claims 9-11, 16, 37, 38, 44-49, and 78, drawn to a method and apparatus for generating a database for storage on a computer-readable medium, classified in Class 707, subclass 104.

Group V: Claim 66, drawn to a method and apparatus for filtering electronically stored documents forming the results of a search on the basis of a keyword, classified in Class 707, subclass 3.

Group VI: Claims 67-69, drawn to a method and apparatus for storing and processing items of data, stored classified in Class 707, subclass 205.

3. The inventions are distinct from each other because of the following reasons:

a. These inventions have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by the different classification.

b. The search required for one group is not required for the other group. In the instant case, the invention in Group I has required a search classified in Class 707, subclasses 101, 6, the invention in Group II has required a search classified in Class 707, subclass 102, the invention in Group III has required a search classified in Class 707, subclass 5, 4, the invention in Group IV has required a search classified in Class 707, subclass 104, the invention in Group V has required a search classified in Class 707, subclass 3, 5, 6, the invention in Group VI has required a search classified in Class 707, subclass 205. These inventions have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by the different classification and the search required for one group is not required for the other group. For the reasons above restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

4. Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a diligently-filed petition under 37 C.F.R. § 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(h).

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thuy Pardo, whose telephone number is (703) 305-1091. The examiner can normally be reached Monday through Thursday from 6:30 AM to 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dov Popovici, can be reached at (703) 305-3830.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are as follows:

(703) 746-7238	(After Final Communication)
(703) 746-7239	(Official Communication)
(703) 746-7240	(For Status inquiries, draft communication)

and/or:

(703) 746-5616 (*Use this Fax#, only after approval by Examiner, for "INFORMAL" or "Draft" communication. Examiner may request that a formal/amendment be faxed directly to then on occasions*).

Any inquiry of a general nature of relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

5. Any response to this action should be mailed to:

**Box AF**

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

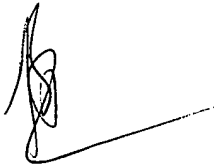
Serial Number: 09/336,200  
Art Unit: 2175

Page 5

**or faxed to:** (703) 308-9051, (for formal communications; please mark  
"EXPEDITED PROCEDURE")

**Or:** (703) 308-5359, (for informal or draft communications, please  
label "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT")

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington.  
VA., Sixth Floor (Receptionist).



Thuy Pardo  
July 03, 2002



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